3rd August 1932]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Inspector-General of Police is making a departmental enquiry."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will the enquiry be a public one?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is a departmental enquiry."

Alleged beating of picketers on 4th May 1932 at Bezwada.

* 82 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on 4th May 1932 the volunteers who were picketing foreign cloth shops peacefully with national flags in Bezwada were escorted by the sergeant and the police to the Krishna river bund and detained there till about 11 a.m. and then subjected to a severe cane and lathi charge;

(*b*) whether Balipalli Appalaswami and others who had so received injuries are treated in the Peoples Hospital; if so, whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to call for a statement from the medical officer in charge of the hospital regarding the number and the nature of their injuries and place them on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—"Have the Government received the information at least now?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Alleged petition to the Collector of South Kanara, dated 21st May 1932, regarding police excesses.

* 83 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. K. Sundara Rao, B.A., LL.B., and several others sent a statement or a petition, dated 21st May 1932, to the Collector of South Kanara detailing the excesses committed by the police and the forest guards on the Congress volunteers who went to break the Forest Laws in the Herur Reserve Forest of Coondapoor taluk on 16th May 1932; if so, whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House;

(*b*) whether the Collector of South Kanara enquired into the said petition; if so, what the result of the same is; and on whose evidence the enquiry is based; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Alleged ill-treatment of forest satyagrahis in Herur forest.

* 84 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether on 16th May 1932 one Laxminarayanamurti, the standard bearer of the forest satyagrahis of Herur forest, Coondapoor taluk, was given about ten or twelve blows with the flagstaff which the boy had carried;

(*b*) whether one Balagone Venkataramana Hebbar who was another of the said satyagrahis was given two blows on the head with cudgel and whether, when his clothes were besmeared with blood resulting from the wounds caused on the head, the police removed all the clothes from his body and took them away; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that one Karyavirya Subba and another who accidentally happened to come to the said place of forest satyagrahis was beaten and whether the former's clothes were also removed and torn?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Alleged arrest of forest satyagrahis in Herur forest.

* 85 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when were the 23 forest satyagrahis arrested for satyagraha in the Herur forest in Coondapoor taluk on 16th May 1932 and when were they charged or released;

(*b*) whether they were given any food on 16th May 1932 when they were in Kirimanyeswar school or later in the night when they were brought to the Baindur lock-up;

(*c*) whether the police gave them any food between the 17th and 20th May 1932 when they were in Baindur lock-up;

(*d*) whether any medical assistance was given to the satyagrahis; if so, when;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that as the police did not give them any food the people of Baindur, out of pity, served food to the arrested prisoners in the Baindur lock-up between the 17th and 20th May 1932; and

(*f*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"When the Government receive the information, will they be pleased to place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"The suggestion will be considered after we receive the report."